The adjourned Meeting of Unitarian Ministers to receive and act upon the Report of their Committee, appointed 29th February last, was held at the Berry St. Vestry in Boston, Thursday April 11. 1844, at 12 o'clock, Noon. Rev. Dr. Francis, Moderator, in the Chair.

The Record of the former Meeting was read by the Secretary.

Rev. Mr. Morison, from the Committee appointed at the former meeting, gave a brief statement of the course pursued by the Committee, and reported a letter as a reply to the Address received from Great Britain & Ireland. [The letter had been ~~prepared~~ drawn up as was stated by Mr. Morison — the Chairman of the Committee. Rev. A. P. Peabody having been obliged to leave this part of the country, from ill health.]

Mr. Lothrop read a Letter which he had that morning received from Rev. Mr. S. J. May of Lexington, one of the Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Preiport of Boston and seconded by Mr. Thompson of Salem, that the Report be accepted.

The following Amendments to the Report were then ~~proposed~~ moved & acted upon, viz.

By Mr. Preiport, which was seconded, to substitute, after the words "District of Columbia," in place of the words "which is but ten miles square," the following, viz.

MS. B. 1.6 v.1, p.52

"and the Territories not yet admitted as Independent States." Adopted.

By Mr. Pierpont, which was seconded, to substitute, for the words "the utmost delicacy", these words "great difficulty." Adopted.

Some objections, on different grounds, having been made to the word "crime", it was proposed by Mr. Morison that it should be made to read "by whose guilt it must be." Adopted.

By Mr. Gannett, which was seconded, that the clause speaking of our "glorious Republic" should be made to read "threaten the ruin of our Republic". Adopted.

It was then Voted, with one only dissenting voice, that the Letter as reported & amended be accepted.

Mr. Robbins of Chelsea moved "that the Report be adopted, ~~as a Reply~~ to be sent to our brethren in Great Britain & Ireland as a Reply to their Address, and that it be placed in the hands of a committee for signatures;" - which motion was seconded.

Voted. To adjourn to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon. Met according to adjournment.
Dr. Francis in the Chair.

A general discussion took place, in which Messrs. Stetson, A. D. Jones, H. Frost of Concord, Dr. Allen of Northboro', Thompson of Salem, Ellis, Morison, C. Brooks, Lothrop, May of Leicester, Pierpont, J. F. Clarke, Robbins of Chelsea, took part.

Mr. Robbins's motion was then adopted, nem. con.

Voted, To appoint a Committee of three, as provided for ~~by~~ by the previous Vote — to be nominated by the Moderator.

Messrs. Lothrop of Boston, Stetson of Medford, and Thompson of Salem were nominated, and accepted by the Meeting as their Committee.

Voted, That the same gentlemen ~~act as~~ be a Committee to obtain what funds may be needed ~~for~~ in procuring signatures, and forwarding the ~~Address~~. Reply.

Voted, That the Committee be requested to have a sufficient number of copies of the Letter, reported to this Meeting, printed; & ~~that~~ to forward a copy ~~may be forwarded by them~~ to every Unitarian Clergyman in the United States, so far as known, with the request to each that he will return it to the Committee with his name ~~appended~~ subscribed, if he think proper, as soon as may be convenient; ~~and~~ that, when a reasonable time shall have elapsed, to provide for the engrossing of the letter upon parchment, with the names of the several signers appended; and to forward it to such destination in Great Britain as the Committee ~~they~~ may think proper; and to take any other steps which, in their judgment, are needful.

Voted, That the Secretary communicate a brief Abstract of the doings of this Meeting to such papers as he may think proper.

Sam'l May, Secretary.

Ms. B. 1.6 v.1, p.52

Record of Adjourned

Meeting of Unitarian Ministers

at Berry St. Vestry

April 11. 1844.